

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Albania

DATE DISTR. 29 SEP 51

SUBJECT Kucove Oil Field; Anti-Aircraft Unit at Kucove

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1. There are approximately 300 oil wells at Kucove scattered over an area of 4 or 5 kilometers (sic). The wells are between 800 and 900 meters in depth. About 1,000 workers are employed at the field.
2. The crude oil is pumped from the wells by electrically-operated pumps and stored in drums measuring about 1.5 meters in diameter and 2 meters in height. These drums are then taken to the eight or ten refineries located in the center and at the northwestern edge of the oil field. The refineries produce kerosene, gasoline and naphtha.
3. The products of the refineries are piped to 8 or 10 tanks which measure 3 meters in diameter and about 5 meters in height. The steel exterior of the tanks is continually sprinkled with water to prevent fire. The refinery product is then transferred to barrels and loaded on trucks. Informant did not know where the barrels were taken.
4. A unit of an anti-aircraft artillery regiment based at Tirane is stationed at Kucove and has about 70 officers and men.

25X1A 5. [REDACTED] large anti-aircraft guns and 3 small ones, reportedly of 76 mm. and 20mm. respectively, and of German and Czech manufacture. Each gun was manned by 3 soldiers. The anti-aircraft guns were in permanent emplacements made of concrete which measured about 5 meters in diameter and about 1.5 meters in depth. The 3 large guns were set about 10 meters apart and were placed about 100 meters south of Kucove. The 3 small guns were about 10 meters apart, 100 meters north of Kucove.

6. This anti-aircraft unit guarding the Kucove oil field had a sub-unit at the Patos oil field with 3 anti-aircraft guns of 20 mm. The two units were connected by telephone. The unit at Patos did not have a wireless set.

25X1A 7. [REDACTED] Soviet officer only once during the 18 months in which he served at Kucove. In this instance, a Soviet major connected with the communications regiment at the General Staff in Tirane came to Kucove to inspect the communications section attached to the anti-aircraft unit.

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1. Comment: For other information on oil fields in Albania,

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